



SENATOR
BILL HARDIMAN

E-Hardiman Herald



*Chair, Families & Human
Services Committee
Appropriations Committee:
Chair, Family Independence
Agency, Commerce Labor
& Economic Development,
Capitol Outlay,
Higher Education*

SPECIAL VETERANS EDITION

On November 11 we will remember with gratitude the veterans who answered our nation's call to duty continuing the pursuit of peace and freedom at home and around the world. It is an honor to join with the rest of the nation in saying thank you for your service. Here are some things going on here in Lansing that may be of interest to our veterans.

MICHIGAN HONORS U.S. ARMED FORCES

Under a new law, our state now has a formal public way to honor the men and women who serve our country in the U.S. armed forces. Under Public Act 402 of 2005, the flag of each branch of service is flown over the State Capitol on its founding date. The commemoration dates:

U.S. Army - June 14
U.S. Coast Guard - August 4
U.S. Air Force - September 18
U.S. Navy - October 13
U.S. Marine Corps - November 10

GREAT LAKES NATIONAL CEMETERY

The Great Lakes National Cemetery in northwest Oakland County has now opened. It is the second national cemetery in Michigan, joining the Fort Custer site near Battle Creek. For more information, visit www.cem.va.gov/nchp/greatlakes.htm.

PURPLE HEART MONUMENT

Michigan could soon join 43 other states in paying tribute to our servicemen and women wounded in action. Senate Bill 764 would place a monument honoring Purple Heart recipients in Veterans Memorial Park, located in the State Capitol complex. The expenses would be covered by the Military Order of the Purple Heart. This national organization is working to put identical monuments at each state capitol. The legislation has been referred to the Senate Committee on Veteran Affairs and Homeland Security.

RESOURCES FOR VETERANS

- Visit www.michigan.gov/dleg for employment assistance or training services. Click on Agencies and Commissions to find Veteran Services. Link to veterans' employment specialist throughout the state. Vets can also call toll-free 1-800-455-5288
- The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs website is a one-stop resource for information on health, education, insurance and home loan benefits. Access the Federal Benefits for Veterans and Dependents booklet online. Go to www.va.gov or call 1-800-827-1000
- Visit www.michigan.gov/dmva for information on Michigan's National Guard units
- Keep up-to-date on state homeland security issues at www.michigan.gov/homeland.

HONORING OUR FALLEN SOLDIERS

On May 26th, Senator Hardiman was one of 4 Senators that participated as veterans in the Memorial Day Service in the Senate Chambers. Senator Hardiman served in the US Army during Vietnam for two years. The 38 State Senators joined with veterans across the state to commemorate not only Michigan's fallen soldiers but armed service men and women across the nation.

SENATOR HARDIMAN DISTRICT OFFICE HOURS

Senator Hardiman will be holding monthly district office hours the first Monday of each month from 10:00am - 11:30am throughout the 29th district. Be sure to talk to the Senator at these upcoming office hours:

- Monday, December 5, 2005 Sandy's Donut House, 2040 Leonard NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49504
- Monday, January 9, 2006, Red Hot Inn, 3175 Leonard St. NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49525

Senator Hardiman will hold this time each month so constituents of the 29th district have an opportunity to speak to him about any questions or concerns they may have regarding state issues. You can also contact Senator Hardiman via his toll-free number: 1-866-305-2129 or visit Senator Hardiman's homepage to set-up a meeting outside of the district hours, www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/hardiman

Senator Hardiman will have a cell phone collection box available with him when he holds District Office Hours. Again, this donation will go to the victims of domestic violence. If you have a cell phone to donate, please stop by district office hours.

Together we can help the victims of domestic violence, one step at a time

CONTACT INFORMATION

The Hardiman Herald is designed to provide residents and organizations with a timely update of Senator Bill Hardiman's activity in Lansing. If you have any questions, please contact Senator Hardiman's office.

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